Amendments to the Claims

Please **amend** claims 1-2, 4-5, 7 and 9 as indicated:

1. (Currently Amended) A drive system for a scanning device of an information recording or reproduction device, with a carriage coupled to a toothed rack, a gear wheel mechanism driving the toothed rack and a gear housing, wherein the gear wheel mechanism is secured on a supporting element and the gear housing, the gear housing consisting of a dimensionally stable material and being pivotable with the gear wheel mechanism about a spindle which is arranged perpendicularly with respect to the toothed rack.

2. (Currently Amended) A drive system according to claim 1, wherein the spindle of ~~the~~ a gear wheel on the toothed rack side of the gear wheel mechanism engages in a guiding slot which is formed in the supporting element and permits a movement of the spindle and of the gear wheel corresponding to the pivoting movement of the gear housing.

3. (Original) A drive system according to claim 1, wherein the gear housing has a resilient arm, which at a distance from the gear housing engages in an opening formed in the supporting element and is prestressed when there is a pivoting movement, and wherein a detent, by which the arm is fixed in a defined engagement position, is formed in the opening.

4. (Currently Amended) A drive system according to claim 1, wherein the gear housing is connected to the supporting element via a connection similar to bayonet fasteners, ~~the~~ engaging connecting elements being arranged in such a way that their closing position is obtained in the position of the arm without any prestress.

5. (Currently Amended) A drive system according to claim 4, wherein the engaging connecting elements are provided with a snap projection, formed transversely with respect to the pivoting direction of the gear housing, for the engagement with the supporting element.

6. (Original) A drive system according to claim 1, wherein the pivoting spindle of the gear housing is at the same time the spindle of an intermediate gear wheel included as part of the gear wheel mechanism.

7. (Currently Amended) A drive system according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ either claim 2 or 6, wherein the gear ~~wheels consist~~ wheel consists of a flexible plastic.

8. (Original) A drive system according to claim 1, wherein the spindles of the gear wheel mechanism are formed by webs of the gear housing.

9. (Currently Amended) A drive system according to claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein the gear wheel mechanism is provided such that the gear wheel on the toothed rack side is pressing against the toothed rack independently of its direction of rotation.

10. (Original) A drive system according to claim 9, wherein the toothed rack is integrally formed.